

# Abbeville Press and Banner

\$1.50  
A YEAR.

ABBEVILLE, S. C., WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1915.

ESTABLISHED  
1844

## COTTON STATES TO JOIN HANDS

SOUTHERN BANKERS AND EDITORS MEET IN NEW ORLEANS

## PLAN CAMPAIGN

Support Pledged Farmers Provided Sufficient Food Crops are Planted To Insure Self-Support

New Orleans, Dec. 6.—Final plans for the Cotton States Bankers' conference, which opens here tomorrow for a two days' session, were completed today at a conference participated in by Joe Hirsch of Corpus Christi, Texas, chairman of the convention, and Morehead Wright of Little Rock, secretary, and member of the local committee in charge. The programme as previously announced was approved and it was decided to have the addresses and papers presented at the morning and afternoon sessions, and to have general discussions of the various subjects by the delegates at the Monday night meeting.

In addition to the officers, more than 50 bankers from Texas, Arkansas, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, and other Southern States reached the city early today and others were due to arrive early tomorrow. Mr. Hirsch said word has been received that about 250 bankers will attend the conference. Financiers from Chicago, New York, St. Louis, and Washington also have announced their intention to be present. W. P. G. Harding and Frederic A. Delano of the federal reserve board and Dr. Bradford Knapp of the department of agriculture are among the federal officials who are to attend and address the delegates.

Managing editors of a number of the leading newspapers of the South have announced that they will meet in conjunction with the bankers' conference for the purpose of forming a cotton States' editorial association, with the object of suggesting policies for the newspapers to follow in solving this section's agricultural, industrial and economic problems. The early arrivals include editors from Texas and Arkansas.

The organization of Southern banking interests into a permanent body, which will include the bankers' association of the ten cotton producing States, is one of the purposes of the conference, according to a statement issued tonight by Mr. Hirsch.

"One of the principal objects to be undertaken by the association of the Southern bankers' organizations is the construction of additional cotton warehouse facilities throughout the Southern States, looking to the gradual marketing of cotton crops of the future," the statement said. "It is planned to begin a general warehouse campaign by the establishment of a central warehouse committee from each bankers' association."

"Realizing the great importance of the wise diversification of crops, which made the Southern farmers practically independent in 1915, it also is proposed to conduct a South-wide campaign of bankers, merchants and all other business interests to the end that Southern bankers and Southern merchants will extend farm credits upon agreement from farmers to plant sufficient acreage in feed and food crops to insure self-support."

Mr. Hirsch said that with cotton now bringing attractive prices the cotton producer next year is apt to revert to the all-cotton crop. To prevent this it is proposed to inaugurate a vigorous counter campaign. The movement, it was stated, will begin January 1, and will be a campaign similar to the better farming movements conducted in several Southern States during the last few years.

## LOTS OF MONEY IN COUNTRY; BIG CHRISTMAS BUSINESS

New York, November 30.—Merchants here say that Americans have more money to spend for Christmas shopping than in any year since 1906. The big retail stores are preparing for a record December business.

Wholesalers report that they are unable to fill orders in many lines. This is due, it is said, to the rush of buyers from other cities to replenish depleted stocks.

L. S. Pelz, secretary of the Wholesale and Retail association, says that the merchants never knew better times.

## ATTACK AMERICAN VESSEL

Washington, Dec. 6.—Minister Droppers at Athens has confirmed the report that an unknown American vessel has been shelled and submerged off the coast of Greece.

## SEABOARD TRAINS MEET HEAD-ON

One Killed and Several Hurt When Freight Hits Passenger

Freight train No. 82, in charge of Conductor McDowell and Engineer W. J. Andrews, and passenger train No. 29, in charge of Conductor Cason and Engineer Haigler, collided head-on at 7:50 o'clock Monday night, between switches at Bacula, Ga.

George Armstrong, colored, fireman on the passenger train, was killed and both engineers Haigler and Andrews were slightly hurt, the former sustaining a badly scalded foot.

Several passengers were slightly shaken up, but are being cared for at hospitals in Atlanta by railroad authorities.

The wreck occurring near a siding, traffic was delayed only a few minutes.

## PETITION FOR RECALL OF ATLANTA MAYOR FILED

Atlanta, Ga., December 6.—The recall of Mayor James G. Woodward was demanded in a petition filed here today with city council. The petition contains 3,235 names, or 309 more than the 25 per cent of the registered vote of the city required by the Georgia recall law.

The filing of the petition is an outgrowth of the fight which resulted several months ago in the removal by the police board, of which the mayor is a member, of Chief of Police, J. L. Beavers. Petitions asking the recall of Police Commissioners James W. English, Edwin F. Johnson, Robert C. Clark, Robert T. Pace, Andrew King and W. P. Fair were expected to be filed to-day, but delays in completing necessary clerical work caused them to be held up. It is expected they will be filed tomorrow.

The petition filed to-day asks the city council to meet next Monday and set a date for the recall election. It is expected, however, that one date will not be set for some time as champions of Mayor Woodward and other officials have indicated that the validity of the names on the petitions and other matters connected with the recall will be contested in the courts.

## PRIOLEAU MAKES CONTEST

Washington, December 6.—Aaron P. Prioleau, a negro who for sixteen years has contested all elections to Congress from the Charleston, S. C., district, today filed a contest against the seating of Richard C. Whaley. Five other contests were filed in the house.

## BRITAIN GIVES OUT WAR LOSSES

List Totals 510,230 Killed, Wounded and Missing

London, Dec. 2.—British losses in her war to November 9, totaled 510,230 in killed, wounded and missing. This figure is given by Premier Asquith to-day in a written reply to a preliminary question. Losses suffered by England in November are unofficially estimated to have raised the total to nearly 600,000.

The Premier gave the military casualties on the various fronts as follows:

IN FRANCE.  
Killed or died of wounds—Officers, 4,620; men, 69,272.  
Wounded—Officers, 9,754; men, 240,283.  
Missing—Officers, 1,584; men, 54,446.

DARDENELLES.  
Killed—Officers, 1,504; men, 21,530.  
Wounded—Officers, 2,860; men, 70,148.  
Missing—Officers, 356; men, 10,211.

OTHER THEATERS.  
Killed—Officers, 227; men, 2,052.  
Wounded—Officers, 337; men, 5,587.  
Missing—Officers, 76; men, 3,223.

ALL NAVAL LOSSES.  
Killed—Officers, 589; men, 9,928.  
Wounded—Officers, 161; men 1,120.  
Missing—Officers, 52; men 310.

## TWO KILLED IN WRECK AT RAILROAD CROSSING

Columbia, S. C., December 5.—Special: Ashby W. Davenport and W. C. Swittenberg were almost instantly killed this morning at 3 o'clock when an automobile in which they were riding crashed into a moving freight train at the Seaboard Air Line crossing on Elmwood avenue. J. Frank Falls, the third occupant of the car who was riding on the back seat, was badly injured.

Mr. Davenport has been a resident of Columbia for about two years, being engaged in the insurance business. His father, K. J. D. Davenport, is of Newberry, where he was at one time the president of a bank. Mr. Swittenberg was killed instantly. Mr. Davenport was rushed to a hospital where he died a few minutes after being placed on the operating table.

## U. S. TO EXPEL ALL FOREIGN PLOTTERS

SAFE CONDUCT MUST BE GIVEN BEFORE RECALL WILL BE MADE

## RECALL IS HELD UP

State Department Officials Remain Quiet on the Subject—Insist On Immediate Recall

Washington, Dec. 5.—Officials at the German Embassy intimated this afternoon that Germany may not act on the request of this Government that Captains Boy-Ed and Von Papan be recalled until the United States obtains the promise of the Allies to allow other German officers to come through to this country to take their places. It was stated that in any event it is highly improbable that the officers will be recalled until it is made certain that Captain Boy-Ed will be granted a safe conduct back to Germany.

State Department officials would not comment on this development this afternoon. From high sources it was learned, however, that this Government is going to insist on the immediate recall of the two officers, and will not permit Germany to delay action.

Dismissal of Boy-Ed, German naval and Captain von Papan, German military attaches of the German Embassy here, was admitted to-day to be simply the first step in the Government's campaign to eliminate all foreign agents who interfere with American laws or industries.

It has been decided by the Administration that hereafter all accredited representatives of foreign governments shall be compelled to stay within the exact limits of American law. Boy-Ed and Von Papan were selected as conspicuous examples of the type of foreign agents especially obnoxious to the United States.

It was again very carefully explained by both the State Department and Department of Justice that the question of "obnoxious conduct" was one that this Government is permitted to settle upon "information and belief" and that where foreigners are concerned legal evidence against them is not required. Boy-Ed and Von Papan have been told to go. The German Ambassador has agreed that they shall be stripped of their official status.

Captain von Papan will go to Mexico, it was learned at the German Embassy to-day. Captain Boy-Ed will endeavor to return to Germany.

It was said by an official of the embassy this morning that the State Department has assured Ambassador von Bernstorff it will try to get safe conduct for either or both attaches. The official added that the safe conduct will be asked only for Captain Boy-Ed. He pointed out that Captain von Papan is officially credited to Mexico, and he will go there soon. He will make the trip by rail, it was stated.

Suggestions were heard in official circles to-day that if the two dismissed officials proceeded to Mexico they would be in a position actively to carry on a general propaganda against the United States, which, with the enormous financial resources at their disposal, could easily become more troublesome than any up to the present time. However, this Government can not make any objection, officials say, because Captain von Papan is formally accredited as a German military attaché both to the United States and Mexico.

Still Probing Charges.  
Just who the next officials who will be proceeded against is known only to Secretary Lansing, Attorney General Gregory and President Wilson. Naturally gossip is busy with the names of Austrian Consul General von Nuber and other Austrian and German commercial agents whose names have been mentioned in the disclosures made by Dr. Goricar, a former Austrian Consul.

It is stated that all of the charges that have lately been filed against consular officials are still under investigation, and where a confirmation is obtained, exequaturs will be canceled and the men either prosecuted under existing laws or expelled from the country.

Just what effect this latest development in the relation between the United States and Germany will have on public feeling in Germany is as yet unknown. Officials say they expect another wave of anti-American feeling there, but they declare this has been carefully considered by the President, and in view of his announced policy he has taken the position that no matter who the official is, any representative of a foreign power who will not recognize American neutrality can not remain here.

## NOT DISARMED BY GREECE.

London, Dec. 4.—Many Serbian soldiers who retreated through Greek territory, after the fall of Monastir were not disarmed, but were treated with every consideration, says an Athens dispatch to the Daily News.

## OPTIMISM PREVAILS ALL OVER COUNTRY

FEDERAL RESERVE AGENTS SAY COUNTRY'S BUSINESS IS GOOD

## OUTLOOK BRIGHT

Reports From Various Cities Tend To Show That Country Still Is Prosperous

Washington, Dec. 3.—Reports of business conditions throughout the country from federal reserve agents, are, in the main, favorable, and show improvement for November, according to information from these sources published today by the reserve board.

Atlanta reports general conditions there as representing more of a continuation of the favorable situation and outlook for the previous month than as possession of new features.

Boston, one of the least optimistic of the 12 reserve district cities, says that there business has improved "but slightly, if at all, but that the economies of the past months are not now being so rigidly observed and that the public generally is spending money more freely than in the past, due presumably, among other things to the fact that labor is more generally employed."

## New York Optimistic.

Activity and improvement in trade and industry continued during the month, New York reports. Retail and department stores have found business very much better with an increasing demand for higher grade goods. Steel orders are reported as very heavy, notwithstanding steadily advancing prices.

Philadelphia says conditions through that district are gradually becoming better and substantial improvement is being reported in nearly all lines, with mills and factories of all kinds working at nearer normal capacity than for some time with voluntary wage increases with some concerns and reduced working hours and larger payrolls than ever before.

A tremendous demand for steel products and unprecedented activity in the steel and allied businesses continued through the Cleveland district with prices the highest since 1908. Output from automobile and rubber manufacturers is at capacity and there is a scarcity of labor.

Further developments of "the very satisfactory general conditions heretofore reported" features the Richmond district. This is said to be strongly in evidence and general business is described as in excellent position both immediately and prospectively.

Business development in the Chicago district is reported as favorable and confirms former reports of general recovery with accumulated orders for future delivery in steel equipment, cars and heavy structural forms exceeding all previous experience. Confidence in the future is held to be indicated by expected undertakings to enlarge output.

## At St. Louis.

St. Louis says there is indication of a considerable increase in business activity, in all parts of that district, with business men optimistic as to the future and generally confident. Improvement in the last two months is said to have gone far toward wiping out the losses of the early months of the year.

Industrial conditions are reported good in the Minneapolis district with labor fully employed.

Although farmers in the Kansas City district are reported as showing a decided inclination to hold wheat for higher prices, a considerable amount is moving. The district is said to be facing the next few months with optimistic complacency.

Reports from Texas, Southern Oklahoma, northern Louisiana, southern New Mexico and southeastern Arizona, are said to show a gratifying recovery from conditions existing at this period a year ago.

San Francisco is hoping for reassurance, with a perceptible report declares, with a perceptible betterment in lumbering with important inquiries and considerable buying which have somewhat strengthened "the demoralized prices."

## VON MACKENSEN HIT BY TWO BULLETS

Copenhagen, Dec. 5.—Field Marshal von Mackensen was twice wounded during the Serbian campaign, according to letters received from Berlin. A bullet fired by a Serbian sharpshooter at Belgrade went through the German leader's arm and two days later a spent bullet struck him in the shoulder.

For nearly two weeks the German General Staff made no mention of Von Mackensen in the official reports. At the time this was attributed to the fact that he was believed to have been sent to Constantinople.

## WILL STAY OUT OF THE WAR

"Will Never Fight the Allies" Declares the King

Athens, December 7.—Via London, December 6.—(By a staff correspondent of the Associated Press). Constantine I, King of the Greeks, received the correspondent of the Associated Press to-day and gave him a message for America on the attitude which Greece has assumed in the world war, and the reasons for the policy which has been followed by the Greek Government.

"I am especially glad to talk for America," said the King, "for America will understand Greece's position. We are both neutral and are together determined, if it is humanly possible, not to court destruction by permitting ourselves to be drawn into the frightful vortex of the present European conflict. Both are trying by every honorable means to guard our sovereignty, protect our own people and stand up for our national interests without sacrificing that neutrality which we recognize as our only salvation."

"America is protected from immediate danger by the distance which separates her from the battlefield. We, too, thought that once. But the battlefield shifted and may shift again. What is happening in Greece to-day may happen in America, Holland or any other neutral country tomorrow, if the precedent now sought to be established in the case of Greece is once fixed."

## Has Given His Word.

"Finally, I myself have given my personal word that Greek troops will never be used to attack the Franco-British forces in Macedonia, merely to avert unjustified suspicion."

"Yet, despite all these evidences of the good faith of Greece, the Entente Powers may demand, in a form which is virtually an ultimatum, that the Greek troops be withdrawn from Saloniki—and that means all Macedonia—leaving our population unprotected against raids by Bulgarian comitads, or all the horrors of war which lay Belgium waste, should the allies be driven back within our frontiers."

"Just suppose the Germans were in a position to demand that your country concede the use of Boston or Seattle as the base for an attack on Canada. What would you say? And if all your military experience and the advice of your general staff told you that such a landing was doomed to failure because made with an inadequate force, and you realized that the British troops in Canada would pursue the retreating Germans across New England, destroying as they went, would you accept the prospects without a struggle?"

## TWO ACCUSED OF HORRIBLE CRIME

Alleged They Robbed Boy, Saturated Clothing With Oil, Applied Match

Lexington, Dec. 5.—Special: Charged with one of the most unheard-of crimes in the history of this county, Quincy Miller and John W. Shealey, young white men, are in the Lexington County jail. It is charged that Miller and Shealey held up Cleveland Bell, a small negro boy, on the railroad near the town of Gilbert, a few days ago, robbed him of \$1.50, all the money he had, poured kerosene oil down his clothing, which filled his shoes and thoroughly saturated his clothing, applied the match and order the young negro to run. The frightened boy obeyed his orders, it is alleged, spreading fire in his flight, which ignited the dry leaves of the woods through which he was forced to pass, while his clothing was a stream of fire. With presence of mind the little negro plunged into a pond of water, but not until his clothing had been almost consumed by the flames and his body had been terribly burned.

The little negro's screams and cries for help attracted persons to the scene. He was carried to Gilbert, where his injuries were treated by Dr. Paul A. Smith, and where to a number of persons he related his awful experience. The boy's legs and body were burned badly, and his entire frame suffered burns.

The little negro stated that two white men had robbed him of his money while he was on his way back to Columbia, his home, from Augusta, to which place he had gone with a show company. He is hardly more than 13 years of age, but is bright, the officers say. He gave a description of the men. The crime occurred on Saturday afternoon, and so wrought up over it were the white people of the community, that they immediately took the matter in hand. Sheriff Miller was notified and he went to Gilbert early Sunday morning, using practically all of the day in an effort to ascertain the guilty parties. Others freely assisted the sheriff in his efforts. Both of the accused men, it is stated, were in Gilbert Saturday afternoon and under the influence of whiskey. Both of the men deny their guilt bitterly.

## SHIP BUILDER DIES.

Buffalo, Dec. 5.—Edward Smith, president of the American Shipbuilding company, died at his home here today. He was 71 years old.

## 64TH CONGRESS NOW IN SESSION

WILSON READS MESSAGE IN PERSON—NATIONAL DEFENSE A BIG ITEM

## DEMOCRATS LEAD

Increases From Elections Held In November Brings Average Up to Sixteen

Washington, Dec. 6.—The first session of the 64th congress convened at noon today in the last congressional meeting before the 1916 presidential campaign. All 435 members of the house and 32 senators, (1-3 of the whole senate), were sworn in. Of the former, 116; of the latter, 9 were new.

Resting upon the legislative program of the new congress today was the shadow of the national and world politics. Tomorrow the administration's program will be outlined personally by President Wilson when he reads his opening message at the joint session. Its known, big outstanding features are: National Defense, Revenue, War Measures and Government Ship Purchase.

There is a mass of other legislation comprising the largest, longest and most important program of a decade. Since adjournment of the 63rd congress last March a score of new vital questions have arisen in addition to many left over. Continuation of this session well into next summer is predicted by veteran legislators.

There were the usual mammoth crowds in both senate and house galleries, representing the eyes of a hundred million Americans. Today's actual business was confined to the routine of swearing in new members, organization of both houses and notification of the President of the new legislative epoch.

As the gavel fell at the stroke of twelve at both ends of the capitol officials and spectators were sobered by the gigantic tasks looming ahead. Secretary Baker presided in the senate and South Trimble, house clerk, in the lower body pending Speaker Clark's election. After the routine tasks both bodies adjourned until tomorrow to await the President's message, according to ancient and legal precedent.

As complemented today, the result of congressional elections in November, 1914, the Democratic majority in the senate was increased from 13 to 16. In the house it was reduced from 143 to 25. The new Senate line-up today was: Democrats, 56; Republicans, 40. The new House: Democrats, 230; Republicans, 196; Progressives, 7; Socialists, 1; independents, 1. The last house had 236 Democrats, 125 Republicans, 17 Progressives and 1 independent. For the first time since the 62nd congress the socialist party was again represented today, Meyer London, of New York being the member.

The suffragists, several thousand of whom are in the city, gave a demonstration this morning in a parade. The proposed amendment to the constitution will be the first bill in the House. It will be introduced by Representative Mondell, of Wyoming.

The galleries began filling early. Senator Owen was the first member on the Senate floor. Conservation of bills will be reintroduced. None of the principal administration bills have yet been launched. The ship purchase bill has been postponed. None of the revenue measures have been drafted as yet.

The battle lines are being drawn between the opposing factions.

Senator Gallinger was re-elected chairman of the Republican caucus.

Representative Gardner proposed the investigation of preparedness and peace propagandists of the house and of others.

Representative Jones, of Virginia, favors the extension of self-government to the Philippines, and Representative Montague, of Virginia, permitted members of the Cabinet to appear on the floor of the House and the Senate.

Representative Kincheloe, of Kentucky, favors an appropriation of one million dollars to each state for good roads provided the same amount is raised by each state.

On the Senate side Senator Martin, president pro tem, swore in Senators beginning the new term, including Senator Clarke, pro tem.

## BOX SUPPER.

There will be a box supper at Buffalo school house, Thursday night December 9th, for the benefit of the school.

## PREPAREDNESS FIRST

New York, Dec. 6.—Col. Roosevelt, former President Taft, 21 Governors and 3 former ambassadors want preparedness to come first in Congress, not as a party measure.